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no alarm in southern California, and has never been known to have injured what is called the natural Californica, Arizonica, or Missouri vine or stock. No fertilizer is used by the viticulturists, as the soil is too strong, if any thing, to produce a grape which shall make a table wine with as little alcoholic percentage as possible.

Los Angeles County, while it has achieved much success during the past fifteen years in its production of hock, burgundy, and claret, excels more particularly in its port, sherry, madeira, angelica, and other sweet and heavy wines. The acreage of vineyards in southern California is always increasing.

Year.	Acreage.	Number of Vines.
1856.....	1,800	1,500,000
1879.....	56,000	45,000,000
1880.....	68,000	55,000,000
1881.....	80,000	64,000,000
1888.....	150,000	120,000,000

The wine product of these vineyards for the past eleven years was as follows:—

	Gallons.
1877.....	4,000,000
1878.....	5,000,000
1879.....	7,000,000
1880.....	10,000,000
1881.....	8,000,000
1882.....	9,000,000
1883.....	8,500,000
1884.....	10,000,000
1885.....	11,000,000
1886.....	18,000,000
1887.....	15,000,000
1888 (estimated).....	17,000,000

In addition to the large quantity of wine and brandy manufactured, 85,000 boxes of raisins were exported from Los Angeles County alone, while the entire raisin pack for southern California amounted for the same period to 1,250,000 boxes, as compared with only 11,000 boxes in 1875.

BOOK-REVIEWS.

Chambers's Encyclopædia. New ed. Vol. III. Catarrh to Dion. Philadelphia, Lippincott. 8°. \$3.

THIS volume, it is perhaps needless to say, maintains the same excellence shown in the two already reviewed in these columns. The number of illustrations is noticeable, as is also that of the maps, five of which are given. These maps, of China, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, and Denmark, show exactly what is wanted by the general user of maps,—the location of the chief political divisions and the towns,—very little or no attention being paid to the physical features. This is noteworthy in view of the tendency, on the part of some modern geographers, to lay special stress on the physical features, at least in school-geographies and in some atlases, but probably without due appreciation of the demand of the public at large that a map shall be a convenient diagram of the location of towns, counties, and states. It is doubtful whether it is often important to a person using an atlas whether even the rivers are carefully given. Rivers have ceased to have their former value as avenues of communication, having been superseded by railroads. It is likely, therefore, that a map showing the railways more clearly than the rivers would more nearly serve the purposes of ordinary every-day reference. We certainly indorse the maps as given in this volume.

A number of articles on American topics are specially copyrighted in the United States; and among these it is worthy of note that an addendum is made to the article on "Cheese," to cover American cheese, which is now so largely exported to England. "Dairy Factories" is another of these American articles, this being one more evidence of the development of entirely novel methods in this country for providing cheese and butter.

Grover Cleveland receives notice from an American pen; but it is a surprise to find so early an immigrant as Christopher Columbus treated of by one of our countrymen.

To indicate the character of the articles, we may mention that most of the geological ones are contributed by Professor James Geikie; the botanical ones, by Professor Patrick Geddes; the philosophical ones, by Professor Seth; and the legal ones, by Mr. Thomas Raleigh. Professor Rhys has written on the "Celts;" the Duke of Argyll, on "Clans;" Professor Legge, on "China;" Sir Edward Watkin, on the "Channel Tunnel;" Lord Brassey, on "Coaling Stations;" Lord Napier and Ettrick, on "Crofters;" Mr. Goldwin Smith, on "Cromwell;" Professor Nicholson, on "Currency;" Mr. E. W. Streeter, on "Diamonds;" Mr. A. J. Ellis, on "Dialect." The writers of literary biographies include the names of Walter Besant, A. H. Bullen, Professor J. W. Hales, George Saintsbury, and Theodore Watts.

Those who wish at hand a convenient reference-book, arranged by topics, and not made up of the elaborate treatises of some of the larger encyclopædias, should keep Chambers in mind.

Harper's First, Second, Third, and Fourth Readers. 4 vols. New York, Harper. 12°.

IF the rising generation is not properly educated, it will not be due to a lack of books. Publishers vie with each other in bringing out new school-books with all the improvements, both literary and mechanical, that experience and ingenuity can suggest. Under these circumstances, it is impossible that any one series of text-books should possess very decided superiority over others of the same class; and this is particularly the case with reading-books, on which so much labor has been expended. Nevertheless new readers will from time to time be needed, and the Messrs. Harper have sent us a series of them which they claim are superior in some respects to any hitherto prepared. The first of the series, which is intended for very young pupils, has been edited by Professor O. T. Bright; the editor of the others being Mr. James Baldwin. The volumes of the series are carefully graded, and the new words introduced in each lesson are given in a table at the end of the lesson, while a pronouncing and defining vocabulary of all the new words in the volume is placed at the end of the book. All the volumes are, of course, illustrated; and every means has been used to make them attractive to young persons, both in appearance and in their literary contents. The third and fourth numbers of the series contain many articles on history, the habits of animals, and other topics of importance; and in all the books moral lessons are inculcated as opportunity is presented. Throughout the series the attempt has been made to give the young reader really good literature, and the attempt has been attended with a good deal of success. Whatever may be the relative merit of these readers as compared with others, their positive merit seems to us of a high order.

Longmans' New Atlas. Ed. by GEORGE G. CHISHOLM. London and New York, Longmans, Green, & Co. 8°. \$4.

THREE years ago we had occasion to remark favorably upon "Longmans' School Geography," by George Chisholm. The same author supplements his previous work most fortunately by the present atlas. Acting upon the advice of the Royal Geographical Society's committee, he has followed, as far as circumstances permit, German educationists; and the endeavor to make the best use of German works on school geography has led to excellent results in the present atlas. The author has evidently been guided to a great extent by "Sydow-Wagner's Atlas." The atlas is primarily designed for use in schools. With this view, three things have been aimed at as of chief importance,—first, the adequate representation of the physical features; second, the careful and somewhat exclusive selection of names; third, the facilitation of comparison as to size between the countries and regions included in the different maps. Physical features and political outlines are represented on the same maps.

In the selection of names the chief aim has been to insert no more than are necessary, and this aim has been kept in view not merely with the intention of rendering it possible to engrave all the names clearly in fairly large letters. The maps have in many cases been left comparatively bare in this regard, because every superfluous name tends to reduce the utility of a map for educational purposes. In school-maps it ought to be regarded as one of the first essentials that the names should be few. But the atlas